# ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR 1909,

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

OF THE

# URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WIRKSWORTH.

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### General Statistics.

Area in Acres—3020.

Population—Census, 1891, 3725; Census, 1901, 3807.

Estimated 1909, 3890.

Inhabited Houses—Census 1901, 907; estimated 1909, 912.

New houses erected during the year, 0.

Rateable value, £14,901 1s. 3d. Assessable value, £12,211 10s. 6d.

General District Rate at 2s. 4d. in the £.

### Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate, 24·93 per 1000 population.

Infantile Mortality, 51·54 per 1000 births registered.

### Death Rates per 1000.

All causes, 16·96; Epidemic Diseases, ·77; Enteric Fever and Diarrhoea, 0; Phthisis, 1.02.

# REPORT.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1909.

## Births.

There were 97 births (54 male, 43 female, 3 illegitimate), corresponding to a birth rate of 24·93 per 1000 population, as compared with 25·56, the average of the previous ten years.

## Deaths.

The deaths at all ages belonging to the district were 66 net (38 males, 28 females) corresponding to a net death rate of 16·96 per 1000 population, as compared with 15·77, the average of the previous 10 years. Nearly one-third of the deaths were persons over 70 years of age, 15 being over 70, and 5 over 80.

## Infantile Mortality.

The deaths of children under one year of age were at the rate of 51·54 per 1000 births, as compared with 119·17, the average of the previous ten years. Of the 5 deaths 2 were due to premature birth.

## Infectious Diseases.

There was no epidemic during the year. Under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (adopted 1st February, 1890) 15 cases were notified, viz.—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever, | 5. | Removed to Hospital, | | 5. |
| Diphtheria | 8. | Do. | do. | 3. |
| Erysipelas | 2. | Do. | do. | 0. |

There were 2 deaths from Diphtheria.

## Scarlet Fever.

The 5 cases occurred as follows—1 in June, 1 in September, 1 in October, and 2 in November.

## Diphtheria.

The 8 cases occurred as follows—1 in February, 1 in May, 2 in July, 1 in August, 2 in September, and 1 in December.

No connection was traced between them. One was 24 years old, 5 between 5 and 15, and 2 were under 5. The diagnosis was in each case verified by bacteriological examination, and the infected persons were kept under observation until their throats were free from Diphtheria Baccilli.

The apparent increase of late years of this disease probably arises from the systematic bacteriological examination of suspected throats. As the disease is spread almost entirely by personal contact it is by the recognition and isolation of mild cases we may hope to keep it in check.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied by your Council free of cost.

## Tuberculosis.

The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was ·51 per 1000.

One case was notified during the year under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908.

## Disinfection.

Nine houses were disinfected by the Council's Officers under the supervision of your Sanitary Inspector. First the rooms are treated with Formalin Spray, next the woodwork is mopped with corrosive sublimate solution (1 in 1000) and lastly the rooms are sealed up and fumigated with sulphur. All bedding and clothing are sent to be stoved at the Isolation Hospital at Heage.

## Isolation Hospital.

Your District is included in the Belper Isolation Hospital District for which an Isolation Hospital was opened in 1899. The hospital is situated at Heage about 6 miles away, and contains 47 beds, available for the treatment of 4 infectious diseases concurrently, viz.—Scarlet Fever, 29 beds; Smallpox, 12 beds; Diphtheria or Typhoid, 6 beds. By promptly admitting isolated cases, especially of Scarlet Fever, it prevents epidemics. It is particularly serviceable for Diphtheria when this disease occurs in the families of producers and purveyors of food. It is not intended to cope with epidemics when established. Patients are removed with every care in charge of a nurse, in a warmed ambulance, and during the ten years I am not aware of any patient taking harm from the journey.

In my opinion infectious diseases run a more favourable course and make a better recovery at the hospital than at home. Certainly the convalescence is spent under happier conditions. There were no "return cases" during the year, shewing the care and discrimination with which the patients were discharged.

## Elementary Schools.

The Schools have not been closed during the year on account of infectious disease. For a number of years the teachers have been at once informed (by a printed card) of infectious diseases connected with their schools, and they have co-operated with your officers by bringing to their notice any suspected cases. Children from infected houses are excluded from school until certified by the medical officer as safe to return.

## Scavenging and Sewerage.

Scavenging and Sewerage have been dealt with in previous reports, and your Council have had both under consideration during the year.

## Excrement Disposal.

Approximate number of houses on—

Privy Middens, 707; Pail Closets, a few; Water Closets, 275; Slop Water Closets, 2.

Number of houses converted from privy middens to Water Closets, 4.

Number of defective privies, 3.

## Water Supply.

Water Bailiff's Monthly Guagings, 1909.

| Date. | Total Gallons per hour. |
|---|---|
| January 25th ... ... ... | 7888 |
| February 22nd ... ... ... | 5043 |
| March 22nd ... ... ... | 6396 |
| April 26th ... ... ... ... | 7134 |
| May 24th ... ... ... ... | 4920 |
| June 28th ... ... ... ... | 4428 |
| July 26th ... ... ... ... | 4305 |
| August 23rd ... ... ... | 4182 |
| September 27th ... ... ... | 3684 |
| October 25th ... ... ... | 12,070 |
| November 22nd ... ... ... | 7872 |
| December 20th ... ... ... | 10,963 |

A statement of the rainfall at Bridge House in 1909 will be found appended. Owing to the exceptional rainfall in the summer months we passed through the year with a minimum amount of inconvenience. 829 houses out of 912 are supplied from the public supply. No houses in the district are supplied from surface wells, and there are no houses with no supply within 100 yards.

## Lodging House (1).

Regulations adopted 1879. Inspected 7 times. No complaint.

## Slaughter Houses (6).

Regulations adopted 1903. Inspected 42 times. No notices served

## Bakehouses (7).

Inspected 38 times. No notices served.

## Offensive Trades (1).

Inspected 4 times. No complaints.

## Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops (39).

Regulations adopted 1899. Inspected 80 times. Three notices served, two of which should be attended to without further delay.

## Factories and Workshops.

The Factories were inspected 9 times, and the Workshops 40 times. Three notices were served on Workshops and the defects remedied. There is no "home work" in the district.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
A. E. BROSTER.

WIRKSWORTH,
*24th February*, 1910.

# Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector, 1909

Area of District, 3020 acres. Estimated number of Houses, 910. New Houses erected, 1909, none.

| | Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector | Legal Notices served by Local Authority | Nuisances Abated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dwelling-houses—** | | | |
| Repaired ... ... ... | 5 | — | 5 |
| Closed as unfit for habitation ... | — | — | — |
| Infected houses disinfected ... | 9 | — | — |
| **Drainage—** | | | |
| No disconnection of waste pipe . | 2 | — | 2 |
| Defective traps, inlets and drains | 9 | — | 9 |
| Drains obstructed ... ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| **Closets and Ashpits—** | | | |
| Insanitary privies and ashpits... | 3 | — | 3 |
| Insufficient closet accommodation | — | — | — |
| Conversion of privies into W.C. | — | — | — |
| Defective Water Closets ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| **Other Defects—** | | | |
| Surface of Courts and Yards ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| Eaves-spouts and Down-spouts . | 1 | — | 1 |
| Urinals defective ... ... | — | — | — |
| Water supply ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Offensive accumulations ... | 77 | — | 77 |
| Animals improperly kept ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Pigsties ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Smoke nuisances ... ... | — | — | — |
| Over crowding ... ... ... | 3 | — | 3 |
| Foul condition of houses ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Totals - | 116 | | 107 |

| | Number on Register | Inspections made | Notices served |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk shops .. | 39 | 80 | 3 |
| Bake-houses ... ... ... ... | 7 | 38 | — |
| Slaughter-houses ... ... ... | 6 | 42 | — |
| Offensive trades ... ... ... | 1 | 4 | — |
| Common lodging houses ... ... | 1 | 7 | — |
| Totals - | 54 | 171 | 3 |

Action taken by Inspector against spread of infectious disease. Houses and premises disinfected with Formalin Spray and Sulphur Candles, floors mopped with Corrosive Sublimate 1 in 1000, bedding and clothes sent to Isolation Hospital.

Markets are visited weekly; pig-pens are lime-washed when required.

(Signed) J. F. WARDLE.

# MONTHLY RAINFALL

**for the Year 1909, taken at Bridge House, Wirksworth.**

| Month. | Total fall in inches | Rain Days. | Greatest fall in one day | Day |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January ... | 1·46 | 16 | ·35 | 13th. |
| February ... | ·85 | 12 | ·33 | 10th. |
| March ... | 4·06 | 21 | 1·09 | 6th. |
| April .. | 1·78 | 14 | ·41 | 19th. |
| May ... | 2·39 | 12 | ·64 | 24th. |
| June ... | 4·52 | 14 | 1·54 | 24th. |
| July ... | 4·01 | 19 | 1·03 | 27th. |
| August ... | 2·84 | 13 | ·86 | 17th. |
| September.. | 2·41 | 18 | ·48 | 28th. |
| October ... | 5·73 | 26 | ·80 | 24th. |
| November... | ·86 | 12 | ·24 | 27th. |
| December... | 6·49 | 26 | 1.25 | 2nd. |

Total rainfall for year, 37·40 inches.
Number of Days on which ·01 inch of rain fell, 203.
Greatest fall in one day, 1·54 inch, on June 24th.
Average yearly rainfall for 18 years, 1891-1908, 32·31 inches.
Excess of rainfall over average, 5.19 inches.

# TEMPERATURE IN SHADE

**for the year 1909, taken at Bridge House, Wirksworth.**

| Month | Mean Max. | Mean Min. | Mean. | Highest | Lowest |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January ... | 40·5 | 29·6 | 35·0 | 49 | 19 |
| February ... | 37·0 | 26·1 | 31·5 | 53 | 23 |
| March ... | 42·1 | 30·6 | 36·3 | 56 | 18 |
| April ... | 56·9 | 35·0 | 45·9 | 70 | 29 |
| May ... | 61·0 | 37·2 | 49·1 | 78 | 30 |
| June ... | 59·0 | 46·4 | 52·7 | 67 | 37 |
| July ... | 64·4 | 50·0 | 57·2 | 72 | 40 |
| August ... | 67·6 | 50·8 | 59·2 | 83 | 42 |
| September.. | 58·4 | 46·6 | 52·5 | 66 | 38 |
| October .. | 54·9 | 41·5 | 48·2 | 64 | 27 |
| November .. | 45·4 | 33·1 | 39·2 | 56 | 27 |
| December... | 40·7 | 31·0 | 35·8 | 52 | 15 |

Mean Maximum Temperature, 52·3.
Mean Minimum Temperature, 38·2.
Mean Shade Temperature for year, 45·25.
The highest Shade Temperature was 83 on August 12th.
The lowest Shade Temperature was 15 on Dec. 21st and 22nd.
The Mean Temperature for the year was 2 lower than that of 1908

T. GIBBS, Jun.

15*th February*, 1910.

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